



## INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics, ring Mr Godfrey Laurie on Canberra 526573 or our State office or write to Information Services, Australian Bureau of Statistics, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616

## WAGE RATES INDEXES, NOVEMBER 1976 (PRELIMINARY)

### MAIN FEATURES

- In November 1976 the weighted average minimum weekly wage rate showed an increase over October 1976 of \$2.73 (2.1 per cent) for adult males and \$2.65 (2.2 per cent) for adult females.
- Indexation rises in Federal awards and most State awards accounted for almost all of these increases.
- In the year ended November 1976, 95 per cent of the increase in adult male wage rates was attributable to indexation increases. For adult females the corresponding figure was 93 per cent.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

This statement contains figures of weighted average minimum weekly and hourly wage rates and index numbers for adult males and adult females for November 1976 and corresponding figures for some earlier months. More information on these statistics will appear later in the monthly bulletin *Wage Rates and Earnings* (Reference No. 6.16) which also contains explanatory notes covering definitions, scope of the statistics, etc.

2. The wage rates used in the compilation of the indexes are the lowest rates for a full week's work (excluding overtime) prescribed for particular occupations in awards or determinations of Federal or State industrial authorities; in collective agreements registered with these authorities; or in unregistered collective agreements where these are dominant in

particular industries. The indexes are designed to measure movements in prescribed minimum rates of wages as distinct from salaries; those awards, etc. which relate solely or mainly to salary earners are therefore excluded. Because of delays in the receipt of notification of changes in wage rates as well as retrospective changes to rates, figures for the latest twelve months shown are subject to revision. As such revisions are made they are published in the normal monthly tables of this statement.

3. The indexes are designed to measure trends in wage rates in current awards, etc. excluding the effects of changes in the relative importance of industries, awards and occupations. The weighted average wage rates shown in these tables are therefore indexes expressed in money terms, and do not purport to be actual current averages. Similarly, neither these weighted average wage rates nor the corresponding index numbers measure the relative levels of average current wage rates as between States or industries.

4. For adult males the weekly wage rates exclude rural industry; in addition the hourly rates exclude shipping and stevedoring, for which data to compute hourly wages are not available. The weekly and hourly wage rates for adult females exclude rural industry, mining and quarrying and building and construction.

5. The annual changes shown in Tables 1, 2 and 4 measure the percentage change from the same month for the previous year. The percentages may fluctuate from month to month owing to the timing of significant award changes.

TABLE 1. WEEKLY AND HOURLY WAGE RATES: ADULT MALES AND ADULT FEMALES  
ALL INDUSTRY GROUPS, AUSTRALIA (a)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements; weighted average minimum hourly rates payable; and index numbers of wage rates.

End of -	Adult males					Adult females				
	Weekly wage rates			Hourly wage rates		Weekly wage rates			Hourly wage rates	
	Wage rates \$	Annual change(a) %	Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (b)	Wage rates (cents)	Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (b)	Wage rates \$	Annual change(a) %	Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (b)	Wage rates (cents)	Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (b)
1975 -										
November	117.76	12.2	417.0	293.57	414.9	108.37	19.7	544.3	273.17	544.5
December	117.95	11.7	417.6	294.06	415.6	108.61	18.5	545.6	273.78	545.7
1976 -										
January	118.02	11.5	417.9	294.23	415.9	108.62	17.0	545.6	273.81	545.8
February	125.49	18.3	444.3	313.10	442.6	115.75	23.3	581.4	291.78	581.6
March	125.54	16.9	444.5	313.23	442.7	115.81	20.7	581.7	291.93	581.9
April	125.64	16.8	444.9	313.49	443.1	116.23	20.4	583.8	292.98	584.0
May	129.30	15.0	457.8	322.67	456.1	119.77	17.5	601.6	301.90	601.8
June	129.41	14.7	458.2	322.96	456.5	119.80	15.2	601.8	301.98	601.9
July	129.44	14.5	458.3	323.04	456.6	119.84	14.7	602.0	302.08	602.1
August	132.03	16.6	467.5	329.54	465.8	122.34	16.8	614.5	308.38	614.7
September	132.04	12.2	467.5	329.57	465.8	122.34	12.9	614.5	308.39	614.7
October	132.04	12.1	467.5	329.56	465.8	122.36	12.9	614.6	308.44	614.8
November	134.77	14.4	477.2	336.36	475.4	125.01	15.4	628.0	315.13	628.1

(a) See explanatory notes above. (b) Base: Weighted average wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100.



TABLE 2. WEEKLY WAGE RATES : ADULT MALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, 30 NOVEMBER 1976 (a)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements; and index numbers of wage rates.

Industry group	Wage rates (\$)							Annual change (a) %	Index Nos. (Base 1954 = 100) (b)
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia	Australia	Australia
Mining and quarrying (c)	184.74	131.07	170.58	127.11	132.89	146.07	167.45	14.0	592.9
Manufacturing —									
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc.	123.35	129.08	135.11	126.81	125.50	127.78	126.61	14.7	448.3
Textiles, clothing and footwear	123.67	124.53	125.55	123.37	127.02	120.12	124.20	14.6	439.8
Food, drink and tobacco	130.38	131.18	135.59	126.79	133.50	129.60	131.53	14.8	465.7
Sawmilling, furniture, etc.	129.89	123.13	134.38	122.87	125.77	122.41	127.90	14.7	452.9
Paper, printing, etc.	131.64	139.43	147.66	136.28	133.89	131.99	136.14	14.2	482.0
Other manufacturing	129.15	130.04	130.72	128.99	127.42	124.01	129.34	14.5	458.0
All manufacturing groups	126.21	129.23	134.89	127.27	127.48	126.93	128.27	14.6	454.2
Building and construction	147.22	148.90	137.82	144.31	134.87	135.58	144.10	13.8	510.2
Railway services	122.48	117.78	138.33	122.68	109.73	123.12	124.26	14.0	440.0
Road and air transport	137.74	129.72	129.57	129.18	131.84	132.61	133.21	14.5	471.7
Shipping and stevedoring (e)	165.95	166.75	159.29	157.55	167.09	163.31	163.93	13.2	580.4
Communication	160.88	161.71	160.50	159.71	161.40	156.83	160.86	13.5	569.6
Wholesale and retail trade	134.66	136.67	135.33	131.75	131.05	136.38	134.78	15.1	477.2
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	139.94	136.58	142.12	129.17	130.75	142.79	137.72	14.9	487.6
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	128.11	124.37	127.49	120.22	114.85	119.03	124.99	14.7	442.6
All industry groups (a)	135.35	133.94	138.93	132.05	130.45	133.99	134.77	14.4	477.2

For footnotes see Table below.

TABLE 3. HOURLY WAGE RATES : ADULT MALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, 30 NOVEMBER 1976 (a)

Weighted average minimum hourly rates payable and index numbers of hourly rates.

Industry group	Wage rates (cents)							Index Nos. (Base 1954 = 100) (b)
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia	Australia
Mining and quarrying (c)	516.78	327.69	450.31	317.77	348.21	373.40	451.85	638.7
Manufacturing —								
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc.	308.49	322.93	337.99	317.04	314.03	319.44	316.68	447.6
Textiles, clothing and footwear	309.18	311.32	313.88	308.43	317.55	300.29	310.49	438.9
Food, drink and tobacco	326.39	327.95	338.98	316.97	333.75	324.00	328.98	465.0
Sawmilling, furniture, etc.	324.72	307.83	335.94	307.18	314.42	306.03	319.76	452.0
Paper, printing, etc.	329.10	349.07	369.15	340.70	341.48	329.99	340.78	481.7
Other manufacturing	322.88	325.40	326.81	323.25	317.82	310.27	323.48	457.2
All manufacturing groups	315.62	323.26	337.30	318.32	318.95	317.35	320.82	453.5
Building and construction (d)	368.05	372.26	344.54	360.79	337.17	338.95	360.25	509.2
Railway services	306.19	294.76	345.82	306.69	274.34	307.80	310.71	439.2
Road and air transport	344.34	324.29	323.93	322.96	329.61	331.53	333.04	470.7
Communication	412.69	416.44	413.32	416.17	415.63	404.41	414.03	585.2
Wholesale and retail trade	336.66	341.69	338.33	329.37	327.63	340.94	336.94	476.2
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	356.74	350.80	359.60	329.26	330.35	362.52	350.87	495.9
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	320.27	310.94	318.74	300.55	287.13	297.58	312.47	441.7
All industry groups (a)	338.73	333.78	347.01	328.41	325.10	331.43	336.36	475.4

(a) See explanatory notes on page 1. (b) Base: Weighted average wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100. (c) For mining, wage rates used are those prescribed for the principal mining centres and include lead bonuses, etc. (d) The weekly rates used in the index for occupations specified in the National Building Trades Construction Award include the weekly base rate of pay, the special allowance and the industry allowance. (e) Includes wage rates (and value of keep) for occupations in the coastal shipping service, other than masters, officers and engineers.



TABLE 4. WEEKLY WAGE RATES : ADULT FEMALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, 30 NOVEMBER 1976 (a)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements; and index numbers of wage rates.

Industry group	Wage rates (\$)							Annual change (a) %	Index Nos. (Base 1954 = 100) (b)
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia	Australia	Australia
Manufacturing —									
Engineering, metals, vehicles etc.	120.76	127.59	123.09	121.89	121.89	122.56	123.27	15.4	619.2
Textiles, clothing and footwear	117.38	115.66	117.92	118.67	119.35	109.87	116.58	15.4	585.6
Food, drink and tobacco	124.68	124.97	123.46	121.35	111.35	120.49	123.58	15.9	620.8
Other manufacturing	122.18	124.21	124.67	121.45	120.94	118.07	122.92	14.8	617.4
All manufacturing groups	120.10	120.04	121.14	120.81	118.18	115.77	120.06	15.3	603.1
Transport and communication	127.36	128.92	133.16	131.91	123.91	134.14	129.07	14.7	648.3
Wholesale and retail trade	133.26	136.45	130.76	131.97	128.51	125.99	133.09	16.0	668.5
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	132.38	132.12	129.34	122.63	116.54	129.59	130.06	15.0	653.3
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	122.91	120.68	121.30	116.90	108.24	115.28	120.41	14.6	604.8
All industry groups (a)	125.35	125.08	126.39	125.01	120.74	121.08	125.01	15.4	628.0

(a) See explanatory notes on page 1. (b) Base : Weighted average weekly wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100.

TABLE 5. WEEKLY WAGE RATES : ADULT MALES AND ADULT FEMALES, ALL GROUPS (a) (\$)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements.

End of —	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia		
							Federal awards, etc.	State awards, etc.	All awards, etc.
ADULT MALES (a)									
1975 —									
November	118.69	117.27	121.11	115.06	111.63	117.27	119.18	116.04	117.76
December	118.70	117.32	121.48	115.13	113.32	117.27	119.24	116.39	117.95
1976 —									
January	118.68	117.32	121.58	115.12	113.99	117.71	119.25	116.52	118.02
February	126.15	124.66	129.32	122.64	121.47	124.98	126.68	124.04	125.49
March	126.16	124.69	129.53	122.68	121.54	124.98	126.73	124.09	125.54
April	126.28	124.72	129.63	123.01	121.63	124.99	126.75	124.30	125.64
May	129.94	128.32	133.46	126.56	125.17	128.64	130.42	127.94	129.30
June	130.02	128.56	133.49	126.71	125.23	128.68	130.46	128.14	129.41
July	130.05	128.60	133.49	126.72	125.34	128.68	130.46	128.21	129.44
August	132.64	131.14	136.00	129.28	128.30	131.22	133.01	130.85	132.03
September	132.67	131.14	136.00	129.29	128.31	131.22	133.01	130.87	132.04
October	132.64	131.14	136.00	129.28	128.38	131.22	133.01	130.86	132.04
November	135.35	133.94	138.93	132.05	130.45	133.99	135.84	133.47	134.77
ADULT FEMALES (a)									
1975 —									
November	109.27	108.87	109.02	103.31	104.94	105.27	102.69	113.30	108.37
December	109.27	109.20	110.22	103.34	104.94	105.56	102.76	113.69	108.61
1976 —									
January	109.27	109.20	110.22	103.49	104.94	105.56	102.76	113.71	108.62
February	116.21	116.17	117.38	113.15	111.19	112.33	109.38	121.29	115.75
March	116.21	116.24	117.38	113.41	111.58	112.33	109.38	121.40	115.81
April	116.42	116.49	117.58	116.35	111.68	112.44	109.78	121.83	116.23
May	120.14	119.90	121.07	119.83	114.72	115.98	113.06	125.59	119.77
June	120.14	119.90	121.17	119.83	115.11	115.98	113.06	125.65	119.80
July	120.14	119.90	121.17	119.83	115.89	115.98	113.06	125.73	119.84
August	122.67	122.41	123.67	122.33	118.09	118.48	115.56	128.22	122.34
September	122.67	122.41	123.67	122.33	118.10	118.48	115.56	128.23	122.34
October	122.67	122.41	123.67	122.33	118.48	118.48	115.56	128.26	122.36
November	125.35	125.08	126.39	125.01	120.74	121.08	118.09	131.03	125.01

(a) See explanatory notes on page 1.



TABLE 5. DISTRIBUTION OF WEEKLY WAGE RATES : WAGE RATES INDEXES, NOVEMBER 1976 (a)

Weekly wage rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime) as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements.

	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust.
ADULT MALES							
Weekly wage rates (\$) —	Proportion of index weights in each weekly wage rates group (per cent)						
Less than 99.99	..	..	..	..	8.0	..	0.6
100.00 to 104.99	2.9	0.6	2.1	1.5	3.0	0.8	2.0
105.00 to 109.99	6.8	6.0	1.3	6.6	7.6	2.5	5.7
110.00 to 114.99	7.2	6.9	1.2	8.2	7.3	7.5	6.4
115.00 to 119.99	7.7	10.8	10.1	8.9	8.2	14.8	9.3
120.00 to 124.99	9.8	7.2	7.3	8.0	6.0	12.0	8.4
125.00 to 129.99	8.6	19.2	20.5	16.9	5.4	7.9	13.7
130.00 to 134.99	18.7	15.8	7.4	19.3	16.9	18.8	16.3
135.00 to 139.99	7.8	6.9	11.7	6.9	7.6	9.1	8.0
140.00 to 144.99	5.2	7.3	8.1	4.6	3.1	3.0	5.9
145.00 to 149.99	2.9	2.1	5.6	1.2	17.7	5.0	4.0
150.00 to 159.99	8.6	4.7	7.9	8.2	3.3	4.9	6.9
160.00 to 169.99	4.8	5.2	12.3	8.6	3.0	11.5	6.4
170.00 to 179.99	4.2	4.7	1.3	0.2	0.1	0.3	3.2
180.00 to 189.99	1.6	1.8	1.2	0.2	1.2	0.4	1.4
190.00 to 199.99	2.8	0.7	1.8	0.5	1.1	1.4	1.7
200.00 and over	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.7	0.1	0.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Weighted average (mean)(\$)	135.35	133.94	138.93	132.05	130.45	133.99	134.77
Median (\$ (b))	130.90	129.90	135.00	129.80	131.40	130.80	130.90
Proportion of weekly rates equal to the minimum wage (per cent)							
Federal awards, etc.	..	0.3	*	0.2	..	0.4	0.1
State awards, etc.	4.7	*	2.4	2.4	9.1	0.4	3.7
All awards, etc.	2.1	0.2	1.8	0.8	8.0	0.4	1.8
ADULT FEMALES							
Weekly wage rates (\$) —	Proportion of index weights in each weekly wage rates group (per cent)						
Less than 95.00	..	..	..	..	0.6	..	*
95.00 to 99.99	..	..	..	..	1.5	..	0.1
100.00 to 104.99	1.5	1.1	2.7	4.1	15.5	1.6	2.4
105.00 to 109.99	11.9	18.0	7.6	13.0	7.6	23.0	13.5
110.00 to 114.99	4.8	4.0	2.5	4.3	8.3	10.9	4.6
115.00 to 119.99	26.3	26.8	21.1	15.2	14.0	21.4	24.4
120.00 to 124.99	5.7	3.9	10.3	6.7	2.7	7.9	5.6
125.00 to 129.99	7.9	9.4	21.8	8.2	22.3	5.4	10.6
130.00 to 134.99	15.0	10.8	4.1	32.2	25.2	25.0	14.5
135.00 to 139.99	18.7	0.8	23.7	14.2	1.0	2.3	11.7
140.00 to 144.99	7.3	12.9	5.5	0.7	0.6	0.6	8.0
145.00 to 149.99	0.5	10.9	0.4	0.7	0.1	0.9	3.9
150.00 and over	0.4	1.4	0.6	0.8	0.5	1.0	0.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Weighted average (mean) (\$)	125.35	125.08	126.39	125.01	120.74	121.08	125.01
Median (\$ (b))	123.80	118.70	127.90	129.50	124.70	118.90	123.30
Proportion of weekly rates equal to the minimum wage (per cent)							
Federal awards, etc.	0.5	1.8	..	1.0	2.2	..	1.0
State awards, etc.	1.1	..	4.1	1.2	1.9	2.8	1.3
All awards, etc.	0.8	1.0	2.7	1.0	2.0	1.4	1.2

(a) This table shows the distribution of weekly wage rates included in the wage rates indexes, the weighted averages and medians of the indexes, and the percentage of index weights for wage rates equal to the various minimum wages. Comparable figures for August 1976 may be found in the August issue of this statement. (b) The median divides a distribution into two equal groups, one group having rates equal to or above the median and the other having rates equal to or below it, each group having 50 per cent of the relevant weights. \* Less than 0.05 per cent.